



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Aikins et al.) Group: 3732
Serial No. 09/939,412)
Filed: August 24, 2001) Examiner: M. Priddy
Title: BLADE PLATE AND INSTRUMENTS)

ELECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

3732
#5
Election
S. Bryce
3/31/03

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated February 25, 2003, having a period for response due to expire March 25, 2003, Applicants hereby submit the following Election.

Applicants hereby elect for prosecution in the instant application the claims in Group I, namely, Claims 1-16 and 30-40. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional patent application drawn toward the non-elected claims of Group II.

It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 25, 2003.

If fees are necessary in connection with this document, please charge Account No. 02-0385 BAKER & DANIELS.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding any of the foregoing, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at (219) 460-1766.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Schwartz
Michael D. Schwartz
Reg. No. 44,326

MS/pas
Enclosure:
postcard

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231, on: March 17, 2003

Michael D. Schwartz, Reg. No. 44,326

NAME OF REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE

Michael D. Schwartz
SIGNATURE

March 17, 2003

DATE